

# SC State University Continues to Make History

Presents 648,000 Mathematics and Chemistry Textbooks and Other Learning Materials to Zanzibar, East Africa

Once again, SC State University made a historic international impact on secondary education, when President George E. Cooper through the textbooks and learning materials program (TLMP), funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), officially handed over 648,000 mathematics and chemistry textbooks and other learning materials to the President of Zanzibar, Dr. Amani Abeid Karume.

The books were developed collaboratively through a partnership with USAID, The Zanzibar Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT), and faculty and administrators at SC State University.

During the ceremony, which was held on August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Mwembeladu Secondary School, more than 5000 students, parents, supporters, and government officials both from the United States and Zanzibar were present for the historic event.

"In the future, by using the textbooks being handed-over during this ceremony today, and being serious about your educational opportunities, one of you could one day stand where I am, and become the president of this great country," said President Amani Abeid Karume.

According to the Honorable Minister Haroun Suleiman this will be the "first time in the history of Zanzibar that there will be a student to textbook ratio of 1 to 1," he stated.

TLMP is funded under President George W. Bush's African Education Initiative that aims to expand the academic opportunities of African students. In total, SC State has received \$5 million from the program to write, produce, and distribute the textbooks and other learning materials. SC State is the only university in South Carolina and the only U.S. University working with secondary education.

The program, which should sunset in September 2008, has been awarded a no-cost extension through March 2009 to complete project objectives. At this time, SC State and its partners will have provided more than 1.5 million textbooks and learning materials in biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics at the secondary level for the students of Zanzibar, Tanzania.

"It's a great day for the children of Zanzibar," said Dr. Sarah Moten, Chief, Education Division, Africa Bureau/USAID. During the ceremony, Dr. Moten read a letter from U.S. First Lady, Laura Bush, which recognizes SC State for its great work.

Also, in the letter, the First Lady said, "as a former teacher, I am especially pleased that the books being presented today are tailored to the culture and curriculum of Zanzibar." She also said that, "students must have access to appropriate resources, schools, and skilled teachers in order to receive the greatest benefit from their education."

Representing SC State and joining President Cooper, were the principal investigator, (interim vice president for Research and Economic Development) Dr. Leonard A. McIntyre, project manager Lamin E. Drammeh, lead writer for the chemistry textbooks, Mr. Elbert Malone, director of University Relations and

Marketing, Erica Prioleau, and special assistant to the president, Mr. Edwin Givens.

"This program has allowed us to build capacity for both the SC State team and the Zanzibaris involved with this process, said Dr. McIntyre, principal investigator. He continued "further we have been able to provide those working on the team with experiences that have helped them to acquire a skill set needed to write textbooks that they otherwise would not have developed. It has been a very rewarding experience for all involved," he concluded.

During his address, Dr. Cooper, stated that "as SC State looks towards the future, I am confident that through this collaboration, we have made a significant investment in the students and have contributed positively to the future of Zanzibar." He also said, "As SC State embarks on expanding its internationalization program, we will model our process, program, and implementation after what we have done in Zanzibar," he exclaimed.

Prior to the handing-over ceremony, President Cooper and the SC State delegation, met with President Karume at the Zanzibar State House and presented him with his official SC State University alumni certificate, making him an official "SC State Bulldog." The honorary Doctor of Law degree was conferred upon President Karume on May 9, 2008, during SC State's spring commencement ceremony where he (President Karume) delivered the commencement address at SC State.

Also during the day, President Cooper signed a Memorandum of Understanding, a partnership between SC State University and the Government of Zanzibar through the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training to explore opportunities that will foster a productive and meaningful relationship.

The partnership will specifically focus on implementing programs/activities that will allow Zanzibar through the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training and SC State University to enhance and expand on its efforts to fulfill its mission through a shared vision.

Specifically, *the Government of Zanzibar will support the following initiatives:* Presidential Scholarship for Zanzibar students to attend SC State University; Expansion of the textbooks program to address the needs of pre-high school level; Provide a Kiswahili professor to the Department of Foreign Languages in the College of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences. And, *SC State University will support the following initiatives:* Activities that strengthen capacity building for sustainability; Teacher training; SUZA management; Workshops, seminars and conferences; Administrators, students and faculty exchange program between SC State and State University of Zanzibar (SUZA); Pursue opportunities to expand TLMP work through partnership with the MoEVT.

During this visit to Zanzibar, SC State officials, who are the special invited guests of President Karume will visit Karume Technical College, as well as five primary and secondary schools (who are currently utilizing the biology textbook handed over in January 2008), meet with TLMP officials to dialogue about project expansion, and several other official meetings.

October 2008



# Focus<sup>on</sup>

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

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A newsletter for alumni, friends, faculty & staff | October 2008

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED...



Dr. George E. Cooper, 10th President of SC State University, assumed his position on July 16th, ready to make positive changes as he cast his vision to be a student centered university.



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# Focus on the future

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## A Message from the President



*Dr. George E. Cooper*

### Greetings

It is with great humility that I serve as the 10th President of South Carolina State University. I am grateful to the members of the Board of Trustees, the Presidential Search Committee, faculty, staff, students, alumni and all supporters for your confidence in me to lead South Carolina State University to its next level of excellence.

Many of you may have heard me say on a number of occasions that it is my intent to establish a participatory campus environment as we embark on defining SC State's future. I solicit the support of each of you as we work together to carry out our mission.

Going forward, we must celebrate our history and transition for the future. In order to transition for the future, we must focus on our mission by which we were established. South Carolina State University's 1890 land-grant legacy of service to the citizenry of the state is ensured through its collaborative efforts with local, rural, and statewide businesses, public education, colleges and industry. This symbiotic relationship provides a catalyst that spurs a reciprocal economic and social growth for the University, state, nation and the international community at-large.

SC State's future is in recognizing who we are, where we came from and what is that we do. We are a unique institution, different from our peers. We are a teaching institution as well as a service institution.

My vision and priorities for SC State University are to be student centered; excellent in academics; efficient and effective in fundraising; diverse; and accountable in managing resources.

As an institution, we must recruit, retain, and graduate our students on time and meet them where they are and prepare them for employment in support of a global economy. We must also embrace academic excellence in the face of declining resources to become more efficient and effective in our efforts focusing on need base financial assistance for our traditional and non-traditional students and provide infrastructure improvements to improve our capacity in support of academics, research and outreach efforts. We must increase faculty and staff development to prepare for future challenges. We must understand changes to demographic trends to recruit a more diverse student body. In addition, we must be accountable to our various audiences as we manage University resources. Lastly, we must find ways to change our state institution classification from a comprehensive university to a research university to fully express our land grant mission, and take advantage of funding opportunities to improve academics, research and outreach activities.

Again, I thank you all for this opportunity to serve this great institution and I look forward to our collaborative engagements to make SC State University the best it can be.

*George E. Cooper*

## SC State University Welcomes its 10th President

Dr. George E. Cooper is embraced by the University Family



*First Lady, Diane Cooper, and Dr. George Cooper received a warm greeting from Senator John Matthews.*



*During the President's reception, Dr. and Mrs. Cooper speak with faculty, staff, students, alumni and community leaders.*



*Dr. and Mrs. Cooper are warmly embraced by Mrs. Gracia Watermann Dawson.*



*First Lady, Diane Cooper, give remarks during the President's Reception. Mrs. Cooper thanked everyone for their hospitality and making them feel welcomed.*



*Dr. George Cooper and First Lady, Diane Cooper, are greeted by Patricia B. Lott, SC State University National Alumni Association President.*



*Staff from Campus Services join in to welcome the 10th president of SC State University during the President's Reception.*

## University Highlights



*The Daisy Dunn Johnson Foundation recently presented SC State University with a check for \$5,000 for scholarships that will be awarded to students that are current members of the Pre-Alumni Council Association and the Career Development Center. Pictured are (from left): Dr. John M. Berry, Executive Director for Student Services; Mr. Joseph B. Thomas, interim director of the Career Center; Dr. Valerie Fields, interim vice president for Student Affairs; Helen A. Corbett-Brandyburg, SC State Alumnus; Dr. George Cooper, President; and Dr. Jackie Epps, interim vice president for Institutional Advancement.*



*Student participants in the 1890 Extension Athletic and Entrepreneurship Training Program are pictured (third from left) Delbert Foster, 1890 Extension Administrator, President Cooper and Kalani Polite, Budget Analysis, prior to their basketball competition in Orlando, Florida.*



## SC State's Nuclear Engineering Program receives National Accreditation

SC State's Nuclear Engineering program has recently been accredited by the Accrediting Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), a non-profit organization that serves the public by accrediting United States postsecondary degree programs in applied sciences, computing, engineering, and technology.

The program, which originally began in 2002, is the first new nuclear engineering program accredited in the United States in the last 30 years.

Additionally it's the first engineering program of any kind to become accredited at an HBCU in South Carolina.

"This historic event was made possible through a collaborative partnership of academe, industry and government," said Dr. Kenneth D. Lewis, dean of the College of Science, Mathematics and Engineering

Technology.

Through a joint agreement, SC State students majoring in nuclear engineering, receives training from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Students are required to complete their studies in three years at SC State and one year at the University of Wisconsin.

Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services at the Y-12 National Security Complex has supplied a large amount of funding to support loaned personnel. Since 2004, the company has also provided radiation detection equipment through its Mentor

Protégé program. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has also supported the nuclear engineering program through

scholarships and faculty supported grants since its beginning in 2002.



(l to r) Dr. Musa Danjaji, Associate Professor of CSMET/Nuclear Engineering; Dr. Kenneth Okafor, Associate Professor of Nuclear Engineering and Technology; Dr. Kenneth Lewis, Dean of the College of Science, mathematics and Engineering technology; Dr. Stanley Ihekweazu; Department Chair of Civil and Mechanical Engineering Technology and Nuclear Engineering; Mr. Charles Warner, Assistant Professor of Civil and Mechanical Engineering Technology; (Center) Mrs. April Hutton-Moorer, Program Coordinator II for Civil and Mechanical technology

## D-Y-N-A-M-I-T-E...SC State Alumni Invade Newport News, VA

The SC State alumni invaded the city of Newport News, VA to celebrate the 19<sup>th</sup> convention of the South Carolina State University National Alumni Association (SCSUNAA). The convention consisted of several workshops and informative sessions to prepare alumni for the upcoming year. Many alumni arrived in Newport News on July 31<sup>st</sup>, to be received by the Tidewater Peninsula chapter which served as the host chapter for the event. Almost one year worth of planning and sweating by the convention co-chair, David Doctor, was enjoyed by all who attended.

The convention opened with a welcome reception on Thursday evening at the Marriott Newport News City center Hotel. The significance of this reception was that it served as an opportunity for the Alumni Association to be introduced to the tenth president of SC State, President George Cooper. President Cooper thanked alumni for past support and stated that fundraising would be an integral part of his administration. He was received with much applause and support as he encouraged alumni to adopt a new "State of Mind."

Creating Opportunities...Fulfilling Dreams", the theme for the convention, was emphasized throughout the sessions. There was a panel discussion presented on Friday morning with University officials, SC State Board of Trustees, alumni, and visiting administration from Hampton University to discuss the survival of our HBCU's. It was a great exchange of ideas as many entities must come together to position the University for the new millennium. The panel discussed issues such as diversity, financial stability, investment, facilities, and various other topics that were

fielded from the alumni in the audience.

Saturday morning, President Cooper gave his "State of the University" address and stated that he had spent 17 days on the job, but came with passion, vision, and experience to take the University to greater heights. After 17 days, President Cooper touched on many subjects, such as: recruitment, accountability, faculty recruitment, filling interim positions, positioning the institution for the future, research, and something that directly involved the alumni...FUNDRAISING.

President Cooper emphasized how we needed to better position ourselves to raise funds because of budget cuts and inequality in funding. The alumni were also informed that we were on the verge of a capital campaign. The fundraising efforts would be focused on three areas: scholarships, infrastructure and building improvements, and faculty developments.

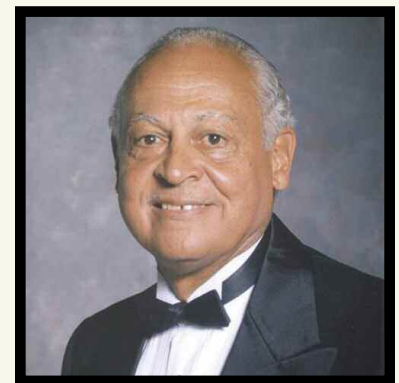
There were several other workshops held during the convention such as healthy living, educating our black males, and intercollegiate athletics. The luncheons

were filled with powerful speakers to include SC Supreme Court Justice Donald Beatty and President/CEO of Grice & Associates, Inc., Mr. John Funny. Though the sessions were filled with a lot of information, there was still time for play as the host chapter sponsored a Summer Groove Beach Party on Friday evening. With over 180 alumni registered who had traveled from as far as Los Angeles, CA, the city of Newport News will never be the same again as, the SCSUNAA presented a DYNAMITE convention for "Creating Opportunities...Fulfilling Dreams."



**| a new state of mind**

## SC State announces the introduction of Coach Willie Jeffries to the National Black College Hall of Fame



*Willie Jeffries*

The National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame has announced the induction ceremony of legendary coach Willie Jeffries '60 into the Hall of Fame for the Lifetime Achievement Award. The 23rd Annual Induction Ceremony was held on Friday, Sept. 26, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, in Atlanta, Ga.

Jeffries, an SC State alumnus, made history when he became the first African American head football coach at a Division I School, Wichita State University. He earned his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from SC State.

"The Hall of Fame induction ceremony, not only reflects me, it represents our University," Coach Jeffries stated, "without SC State I do not know where I would be."

He began his college coaching tenure as an assistant at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1968. In 1972, he joined the staff of Johnny Majors at the University of Pittsburg after a year of assistant coaching, and in 1973 returned back to his alma mater, SC State, where he became the head football coach.

His 19 year career at SC State, which covered two stints (1973-78 and 1989-2001), culminated in a 50-13- 4 record. He retired in 2001. That year his team won its last five contests to finish 6-5.

"The two accomplishments that I am proud of at SC State, is winning the MEAC in 1974 and producing 73% of athletes in their graduating class those were both great feelings," Jeffries said.

Jeffries 29 year collegiate record was 179-132-6. It includes five-years at Wichita State and Howard University, six Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) championships, two national titles, and many coaching awards.

Jeffries has also received many other awards and honors to include:

The Order of the Silver Crescent, (which is the Palmetto States highest award for outstanding community service)

The Order of the Palmetto, (South Carolinas highest civilian reward) SC State has established a scholarship fund and an endowment scholarship fund at SC State named in his honor.

Idolized in three athletic halls, Jeffries has been inducted into the SC State Athletic Hall of Fame, MEAC Hall of Fame, and the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame.

Coach Jeffries expressed his enthusiasm. He stated, "My legacy is that I was a players' coach, I coached positively and I was involved in all phases of the community."

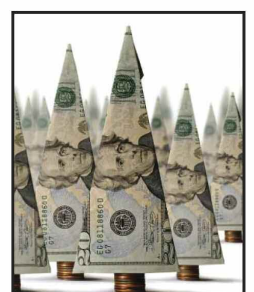
**SC State**  
UNIVERSITY

Invest in the next generation of leadership here at SC State University as we prepare our students to compete in a dynamic global society.

*George E. Cooper*  
President, SC State University

**On-line GIVING is now available!**

<https://www.applyweb.com/cgi-bin/contribute?scsucont>





# Tavis Smiley's "Talented Tenth HBCU Tour" at SC State



Influenced by the teachings of W.E.B. DuBois, television and radio talk show host Tavis Smiley targets college students for the future of Black leadership and hopes to inspire new leaders from five of the nation's universities.

The Talented Tenth HBCU Tour, presented by the Navy, will make its stop at SC State University on November 7, from 6:00 to 8:00p.m. "I created this tour to enlighten, encourage, and empower students to think about what their own leadership legacy will be. That is what they can do today that will echo throughout their communities, careers, and ultimately throughout history," said Smiley.

"I'm convinced that the students who attend these institutions of higher learning are the scholars, the exceptional - the leaders of the future. They possess the courage and talent to set the standard for the next generation of leadership for our country."

Smiley will lead a two-hour interactive discussion on the characteristics of successful role models in the areas of business, public service, religion and academia. And, he will challenge the students to develop their leadership guiding principles. The title

sponsor, the U.S. Navy, will host a special session to examine how leadership skills developed within its organization has helped many achieve a lifetime of successes. The special session will be open to students.

"The U.S. Navy is honored to support Tavis Smiley's vision and the need to cultivate strong leaders within our community," said Captain Anthony P. Barnes, Director of Operations, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command. "We are at a time in Black America in which those who have access to a college education are poised to surpass the accomplishments of their parents and grandparents. The questions I must pose to these talented students are: 'How will you lead, and how will you serve our community, our nation and the world?'"

Smiley's lecture will also address the existing issues and challenges of Black leadership, while emphasizing examples of ethical, effective and transformational leadership for emerging leaders.

A recent Gallup Poll and a survey in Black Enterprise magazine identified Smiley as the "youngest Black leader" shaping the future of Black America.

## SC State and OCtech create "The Gateway Program"

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College and South Carolina State University have signed an agreement creating, "The Gateway Program" between the two-year college and the four-year university. The Program is intended for any OCtech student who hopes to eventually continue their studies at SC State. The new program will take effect in Fall 2008.

"South Carolina State University is fully aware of the educational challenges in entering four-year colleges," said Dr. George E. Cooper, president, SC State. "The collaborative relationship between SC. State and OC Tech provides an easy educational transition for local students to complete associate and baccalaureate degrees. This allows us to expand our role in producing contributing members of society," he continued.

Dr. Anne Crook, president of OCtech, is "enthusiastic about the new agreement with SC State. We believe that this initiative shows that our colleges and universities can work together to raise the educational attainment of all students. There are many potential students that know of and value the traditions of being a 'Bulldog' but perhaps are not quite ready to transition to the University. This initiative will give them the opportunity to begin their college work in a smaller classroom setting while still enjoying some of the traditions of the University."

Students served by this Program will begin their academic studies at OCtech. After having completed at least 30 semester hours of transferable work, the students will be eligible for transfer to SC State. Students may also choose to complete the requirements for an associate degree at OCtech before transferring.

"The Gateway Program" students may have been denied admission to SC State for either academic or space availability reasons. The Program is also designed for students who want to begin enrollment at OCtech for financial or other reasons and plan to transfer to SC State at some point in the future.

Admission policies and procedures of SC State and OCtech

will be followed. First year admission will be determined by OCtech and subsequent transfer will be determined by existing transfer admissions policies at South Carolina State University.

While enrolled in classes on OCtech's campus, students in "The Gateway Program" will have access to a variety of services offered by SC State. These services include student advising, career services, and sessions specifically designed for gateway program participants that address personal and academic success.

Students who want to be more involved in student life at SC State may pay additional fees and have access to optional programs and services. Optional programs and services include health services, campus meals and dining services, student activities, and SC State student prices to select events and athletic events.

SC State and OCtech are collaborating to ensure "The Gateway Program" includes the features needed for a successful college transfer experience. Through a fall orientation program at OCtech, gateway students will learn about admissions, financial aid, available student success programs and student life activities. In the spring, SC State will host a similar program where students will have the opportunity to meet and interact with personnel from admissions, financial aid, student success and retention programs, student life and leadership, the career center, and representatives from their chosen academic area.

"This partnership with SC State presents a wonderful opportunity to enhance the access to a post secondary education in our region. OCtech looks forward to our continued relationship as we provide a quality learning environment for students while offering the student life activities students seek in a

traditional four year university," said Dr. Walter Tobin, vice president for Academic Affairs at OCtech.

Students will also be offered the opportunity to be matched with a transfer student advisor the semester before entering SC State to answer questions as the student prepares for his or her transition to the University.

"The Gateway Program" offers access to students, and by implementing such an outstanding program, we are fulfilling the mission for which we were founded, which is to provide educational opportunities to all who desire," said Antonio Boyle, assistant vice president for Enrollment Management at SC State.



President Cooper along with Dr. Anne Crook, OC Tech President and Dr. Walter Tobin Jr., Vice President for Academic Affairs at OC Tech, established the Gateway program initiative, which is designed for OC Tech students who desire to continue their studies at SC State.